

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

Cancel Claim 1 to Claim 17.

18. (Currently Amended) A hardware I/O control block structure stored in a memory, said hardware I/O control block structure comprising:

a sister hardware I/O control block field; and
a target identification field wherein upon said sister hardware I/O control block field containing a valid value when said hardware I/O control block structure is a new hardware I/O control block structure, said hardware I/O control block structure is for a mirrored data transaction using a target device identified using information in said target identification field.

19. (Original) The hardware I/O control block structure stored in a memory as in Claim 18 wherein said hardware I/O control block structure is one of a plurality of hardware I/O control block structures in said memory.

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22. (New) The hardware I/O control block structure stored in a memory as in Claim 18 wherein upon said sister hardware I/O control block field containing an invalid value when said hardware I/O control block structure is a new hardware I/O control block structure, said hardware I/O control block structure is for a non-mirrored data transaction.

23. (New) The hardware I/O control block structure stored in a memory as in Claim 18 wherein said valid value comprises a valid hardware I/O control block identification number.

24. (New) The hardware I/O control block structure stored in a memory as in Claim 22 wherein said invalid value comprises a null identification number.

25. (New) The hardware I/O control block structure stored in a memory as in Claim 18 wherein said mirrored data transaction comprises a read transaction.

26. (New) The hardware I/O control block structure stored in a memory as in Claim 18 wherein said mirrored data transaction comprises a write transaction.

27. (New) A system comprising:

a host adapter;

a plurality of target devices coupled to said host adapter; and

a memory coupled to said host adapter, and said memory having stored therein a hardware I/O control block structure comprising:

a sister hardware I/O control block field;

and

a target identification field wherein upon said sister hardware I/O control block field containing a valid value when said hardware I/O control block structure is a new hardware I/O control block structure, said hardware I/O control block structure is for a mirrored data transaction using a target device, in said plurality of target devices, identified using information in said target identification field.

28. (New) The system of Claim 27 wherein said hardware I/O control block structure is one of a plurality of hardware I/O control block structures in said memory.

29. (New) The system of Claim 27 wherein upon said sister hardware I/O control block field containing an invalid value when said hardware I/O control block structure is a new hardware I/O control block structure, said hardware I/O control block structure is for a non-mirrored data transaction.

30. (New) The system as in Claim 27 wherein said valid value comprises a valid hardware I/O control block identification number.

31. (New) The system as in Claim 29 wherein said invalid value comprises a null identification number.

32. (New) The system as in Claim 27 wherein said mirrored data transaction comprises a read transaction.

33. (New) The system as in Claim 27 wherein said mirrored data transaction comprises a write transaction.